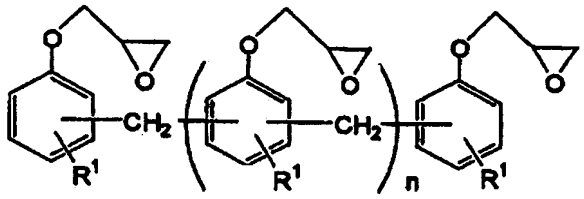
IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 6 (canceled):

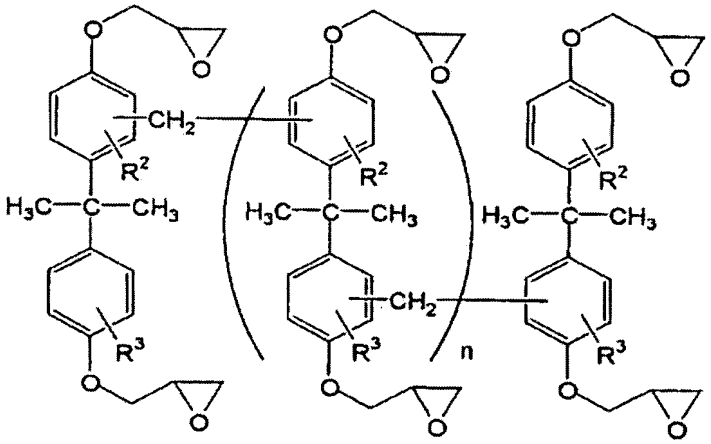
Add Claims 7 to 14 as follows:

Claim 7 (New): A radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides, which comprises: (A) a novolac type epoxy resin represented by the following general formula (1), (2), or (3)



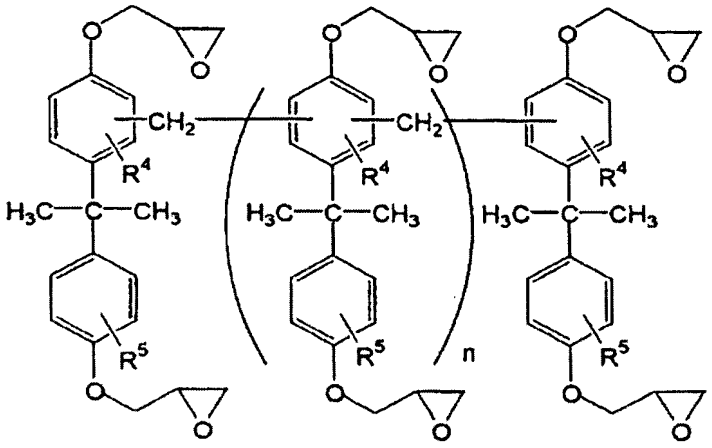
(1)

in the formula (1), R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group; and n is an integer from 0 to 10



(2)

in the formula (2), R^2 and R^3 are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group; and n is an integer from 0 to 10



(3)

in formula (3), R^4 and R^5 are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group; and n is an integer from 0 to 10 ; and (B) a photo-acid generator.

Claim 8 (New): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 1, wherein the component (A) has an epoxy equivalent of 50 to 1,000 g/eq.

Claim 9 (New): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 1, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a refractive index (n_D^{25}) of 1.55 or more.

Claim 10 (New): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 2, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a refractive index (n_D^{25}) of 1.55 or more.

Claim 11 (New): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 1, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a glass-transition temperature of 100 degree C. or higher.

Claim 12 (New): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 2, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a glass-transition temperature of 100 degree C. or higher.

Claim 13 (New): An optical waveguide, which comprises a lower clad layer, a core portion, and an upper clad layer, wherein at least one selected form the lower clad layer, the core portion, and the upper clad layer is a cured product of the resin composition according to claim 1.

Claim 14 (New): An optical waveguide, which comprises a lower clad layer, a core portion, and an upper clad layer, wherein at least one selected form the lower clad layer, the core portion, and the upper clad layer is a cured product of the resin composition according to claim 2.